

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1-3 are currently being amended.

Claims 6 and 7 are currently being added.

This amendment adds and amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending and adding the claims as set forth above, claims 1-7 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter made in the Office Action with respect to claim 3. By way of this amendment and reply, 'objected to' claim 3 has been amended to include the features of its base claim and any intervening claims, and thus claim 3 is now in allowable form based on the indications made in the Office Action.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0016504 to Dam et al.; and claims 2, 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dam et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,397,083 to Martin et al. This rejection is traversed with respect to the presently pending claims under rejection, for at least the reasons given below.

With respect to presently pending independent claim 1, Dam et al. does not disclose or suggest an antenna switching unit that is capable of modifying a connection relation between a plurality of connectors and a plurality of transmission/reception circuits, to correct erroneous connections that have occurred during installation work of a base station apparatus. In particular, please note that there is no disclosure or suggestion in Dam et al. that erroneous

connection between connectors and transmission/reception circuits may happen during installation work of the base station.

Accordingly, presently pending independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Dam et al. It is noted that Martin et al., which was applied against claims 2, 4 and 5, does not rectify the above-mentioned deficiencies of Martin et al., and thus claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are patentable over the combination of those two references.

New Claims:

New claims 6 and 7 have been added to recite additional features of the antenna switching unit that are seen best in Figure 3 of the drawings (and as explained in the specification), whereby such features are believed to provide an additional basis for patentability of those claims, beyond the reasons given above with respect to their base claim 1.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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